

Advisory Group Submits Design Recommendations

The Colorado Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission (CAC) passed a resolution on June 29 generally supporting proposed design changes to reduce the cost of the PCAPP facility but opposing offsite shipment of hydrolysate.

The resolution came after nearly three months of review by the Design Options Working Group (a committee of the CAC) and a series of public information meetings in Boone, Avondale and Pueblo. The CAC recommendations reflect comments received from the community.

In a letter to Program Manager Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (PMACWA) and the Department of Defense, Commission Chairman John Klomp wrote that the CAC

"... continues to support cost savings measures that have and will continue to increase the safety and efficiency of the facility and program while decreasing costs." The letter also points out that "...the

transportation of hydrolysate offsite is not an option that the CAC and the community can recommend at this time due to many unresolved issues."

The letter also confirmed the commission's 2003 recommendation supporting offsite

shipment of dunnage and propellants — provided suitable methodologies can be

developed to prove that the dunnage is not contaminated with agent and that the energetics are not contaminated with agent and are stable.

In addition, the CAC recommends that contingency plans be developed in the event that offsite

shipment becomes unfeasible; that PMACWA and Bechtel begin assessing the political feasibility of offsite treatment options; and that the CAC continue to be involved in the redesign effort.

The CAC "... continues to support cost savings measures that have and will continue to increase the safety and efficiency of the facility and program while decreasing costs."

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Pueblo exchange

A Partnership for Safe Chemical Weapons Destruction

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Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant

www.pmacwa.army.mil

Lt. Col. John M. Riley Assumes Command of U.S. Army Pueblo Chemical Depot

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Mike Parker, director of the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency, incoming commander Lt. Col. John Riley and outgoing commander Lt. Col. John Becker (left to right in above photo) took part in a change of command ceremony June 16.



Riley Takes Command

Lt. Col. John M. Riley is the new commander of the U. S. Army Pueblo Chemical Depot, succeeding Lt. Col. John A. Becker, who was transferred to the Pentagon after 28 months in Pueblo.

Riley's previous assignments include a tour as commander of the Blue Grass Chemical Activity in Kentucky, which, like Pueblo, is home to a stockpile of chemical weapons.

A native of Maryland, Riley received a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from the Citadel and a Master of Science degree in International Relations from Troy State University.

He is a graduate of the Chemical Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the Psychological Operations and Civil Affairs training programs and the Army's Command and General Staff College.

In 18 years of active service, he has served as a battalion and brigade chemical officer, anti-armor and scout platoon leader, chemical company commander, psychological operations detachment commander, battalion operations officer, Blue Grass Chemical Activity commander, and Department of the Army staff officer.

He has participated in military operations in Honduras, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Egypt, Germany and the Republic of Korea — including service during Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Desert Fox and Desert Thunder.

In his previous assignment, Riley was professor of military science at Southwest Missouri State University at Springfield, Mo. He is married to the former Cindy G. Moore of Houston, Texas. They have a 10-year-old daughter, Heather Lynn, and a 2-year-old son, Benjamin Davis.



Lt. Col. John M. Riley

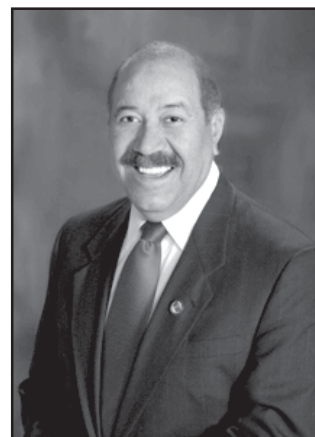
Commissioner Anthony Nunez Named to State Advisory Group

As the newest member of the Colorado Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission (CAC), Anthony Nunez hopes to accomplish many things, but ensuring the safety of the citizens of Pueblo is at the top of his agenda.

"Getting the weapons destroyed is a top priority," Nunez said. "We've waited a long time for the funds to be released. I hope we can start soon with the building of the facility to bring jobs to Pueblo, but first and foremost, I want Pueblo citizens to be safe."

Nunez, 58, was appointed to the CAC in April by Gov. Bill Owens. Earlier this year, he was sworn in as Pueblo County Commissioner.

"We've been encouraged by the actions of Sen. Ken Salazar, Sen. Wayne Allard, and Rep. John Salazar," Nunez said. "With the help of Kentucky Sen. McConnell and other



Anthony Nunez

legislators who have helped urge the Department of Defense and the U.S. Army to move forward with this project, we've seen a good example of working together and accomplishing things."

Working together is exactly what Nunez plans to do while serving on the CAC. Last spring, he and Pueblo County Public Works Director Greg Severance went to the Blue Grass site in Kentucky to tour that proposed destruction site and to offer advice or suggestions.

"We had already gone through the hurdle of planning the road, so we shared with them information on having a second exit out of their facility," added Nunez. "We have a great partnership with Blue Grass."

Nunez is a longtime Pueblo businessman and former chairman of the Democratic Party. He and his wife, Clara, have four grown children and one granddaughter.

Construction Update

The Bechtel Pueblo Team is in the process of awarding about \$25 million of subcontracts for stage one construction work that begins this summer.

The work consists of site preparation that will be required no matter what the final design of the plant. The following activities are planned:

- Construction of the "Northwest Passage," about six miles of roadway on Army property from the Department of Transportation (DOT) road to the PCAPP construction site in the northeast corner of the U. S. Army Pueblo Chemical Depot. The project includes adding a turning lane and signage at the intersection with the DOT road. Work is scheduled to begin in August.
- Installation of about 65,000 feet of security fence along the new access road and at the plant site. The contract is scheduled to be awarded in July, with work beginning in August.
- Construction of a security checkpoint on the new access road, including a gatehouse, guard booth and office. Work is scheduled to begin in January 2006.

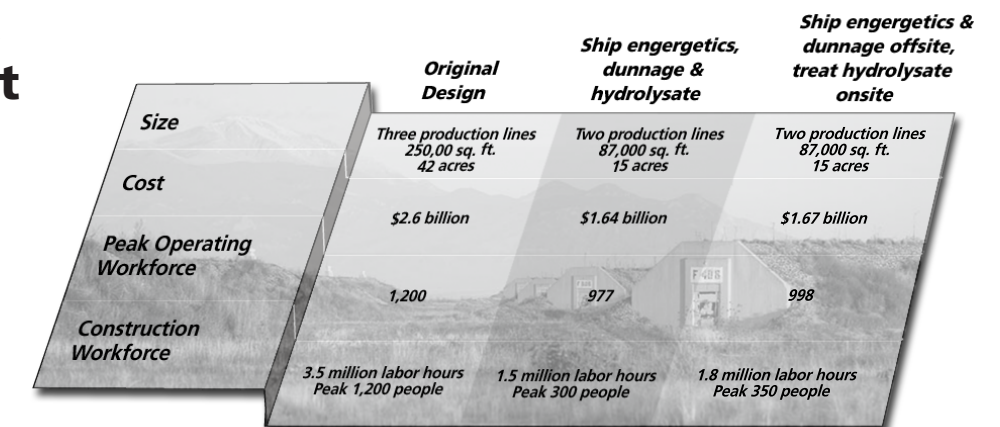
To support this work, subcontracts will also be awarded for surveying and for testing soils and concrete.

Project Team Submits Revised Plant Concept

A revised concept for the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (PCAPP) is being submitted to the Department of Defense (DoD) this month in response to the department's guidance to reduce the life-cycle cost to \$1.7 billion.

The revised concept, developed with significant public input over the past three months, includes the following features:

- The square footage of the plant has been reduced to 87,000 from 250,000, and the acreage has been reduced to 15 from 42.
- Energetics (the explosive components of the munitions) will be removed in an Enhanced Reconfiguration Building, and the munitions will be placed back into igloos for storage until the remainder of the plant is completed.
- The energetics, along with dunnage (materials such as wooden boxes, pallets and packaging) will be shipped offsite for treatment and disposal, provided the material is not contaminated with mustard agent. Any contaminated energetics and dunnage will be treated onsite.
- Mustard agent will be neutralized in an Agent Processing Building, using water neutralization as in earlier designs.
- Hydrolysate (the liquid byproduct of neutralizing the mustard agent) can be treated onsite in biotreatment units. The design also includes an option to ship the hydrolysate offsite for treatment and disposal.



The original design of the plant had an estimated life-cycle cost of \$2.6 billion. The revised concept has an estimated cost of \$1.67 billion if energetics and dunnage are shipped offsite and hydrolysate is treated onsite. Treating the hydrolysate offsite would decrease the cost to \$1.64 billion, a difference of \$30 million or 1.8 percent.

Under the original plan, the peak operating workforce would have been about 1,200, while the revised plan includes an operating staff of 950 – 1,000. Construction of the original design would have required about 3.5 million labor hours with a peak construction force of about 1,200 people. The revised plan requires about 1.5–1.8 million construction labor hours and a peak construction staff of 300 – 350.

The Design Options Working Group, a committee of the Citizens' Advisory Commission, held a series of meetings to review the design, and the CAC adopted a set of recommendations to DoD at its June 29 meeting (article on page 4).

Gary Anderson, PCAPP site project manager for the Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives program (ACWA), said, "Throughout this process, our top priorities have been worker and public safety and environmental protection. This revised concept meets those objectives while achieving the cost reductions directed by DoD."

ACWA officials will review the revised concept with decision-makers at DoD in July and August. "It was important for us to submit the revision to DoD in July so our funding needs can be factored into the fiscal year 2007 budget, which will be developed by DoD this fall and submitted to Congress early in 2006," Anderson said.

He noted that the project has sufficient funding to start limited construction this year and continue developing the revised design in 2006. The Bechtel Pueblo team is scheduled to complete a 60 percent design of the plant for DoD review by March 2006.



Citizens reviewed and commented on the PCAPP revised design concept at public information sessions in Avondale (left), Boone (center) and Pueblo the last week of June.